Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 187869 ORIGIN EUR-12

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J-5:LT COL FEDOR (INFORMED)
OASD/MRA AND L:MR. PONS
OASD/C3I:NGRAY
OSD:RKOMER

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USLO SACLANT NORFOLK VA PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM PRIORITY
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 187869

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: NATO, MPOL

SUBJECT:NATO LTDP: EWG REPORT ON FOLLOW-THROUGH ACTIONS

REFS: A. USNATO 07129 DTG 241706Z JUL 78; B. REVISED ANNEXES TO THE REPORT (AC/281 (LTP) N (78) 6-REV) SENT TO DOD BY DACOM

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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 187869

- 1. WE CONCUR WITH MISSION POSITION ON THE EWG (PETRIGNANI) REPORT FOR THE 26 JULY EWG MEETING AS STATED IN PARAS 3-5, REF A.
- 2. WE RECOGNIZE PRESSURE TO ABSORB LTDP INTO "EXISTING DEFENSE PLANNING MACHINERY." WHILE FORMULATION IN PARAS 2B OF EWG REPORT IS HELPFUL, WE AGREE THAT IMPROVE-

MENT IN PARA 7 WOULD BE DESIRABLE.

3. REGARDLESS OF HOW APPROPRIATE LTDP FOLLOW-UP ACTION IS WORKED INTO EXISTING DEFENSE PLANNING MACHINERY, WE STILL SEE NECESSITY FOR THE SEPARATE REPORTS (DECEMBER AND SPRING) TO MINISTERS ON LTDP PROGRAM PROGRESS AND PROBLEMS (REF A, PARA 14). IF NECESSARY, YOU SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT THESE TWO REPORTS WILL BE COMPLEMENTARY

AND NOT DUPLICATIVE. THE SECOND WILL DEAL ONLY WITH PROBLEMS RAISED BY THE FIRST.

4. WE RECEIVED REF B TODAY AND THEREFORE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO REVIEW IT IN DEPTH. CURSORY EXAMINATION INDICATES THAT, IN GENERAL, REVISIONS TO THE REPORT ARE ACCEPTABLE. IF THE EWG CONSIDERS THE ANNEXES AT THE 26 JULY MEETING WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF APPROVAL, YOU SHOULD USE YOUR JUDGMENT BASED ON PRIOR GUIDANCE. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, NOT WANT TO DELAY APPROVAL UNTIL AFTER THE SUMMER BREAK BY PRESSING FOR CHANGES. HOWEVER, IF OTHER COUNTRIES INDICATE PREFERENCE FOR ANOTHER EWG MEETING ON 28 OR 31 JULY TO ALLOW MORE TIME FOR REVIEW OF THE ANNEXES, WE WOULD AGREE.

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